**United States District Court** 

Western District Of New York

.....X

James W. Jones,

-CV- 24 CV 1128

NOV 2 1 2024

Plaintiff,

Affirmed verified complaint

Civil 1983

Vs.

City of Niagara Falls New York,

County of Niagara,

Vicent Daniels, police officer,

James T. Reynolds, police officer,

Karl P. Brunso, police officer,

Richard Fleck, police officer,

Kevin Maluchnik, police officer,

Christopher Clark, police officer,

Robert Restaino, Mayor of Niagara Falls,

Nicholas Ligammari, police chief,

Dominic Graves, Forensic Scientist,

Kirrin Cook, forensic lab clerical 1,

# Brian Seaman, District Attorney,

Defendants.					
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I, James W. Jones, being duly sworn affirms under the penalties of perjury pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. Proc. 43 [d], that the below is true and accurate so help me GOD:

## **Jurisdiction & Venue**

- 1. This is a civil rights action brought pursuant to 42 USC 1983, and 1985 (2)(3), this court has jurisdiction under 28 USC 1331, and 1343 (a)(3) and (4), and 2201 and 2202.
- 2. The events given rise to this action occurred in Niagara Falls, New York, which is in the Western District of New York.
- 3. This court has the power to exercise supplemental jurisdiction over plaintiff state law claims that arose from the circumstances and events in this action pursuant to 28 USC 1367. And the City and county of Niagara were served by certified mail return receipt verifying service upon the city and county defendants.
- 4. This western District court has power to join this case pursuant to Rule 23 under federal rule civil procedure, as a class action against the County defendants and city defendants hereto named pursuant to the applicable rules of procedures plaintiffs are requesting to add the names of any additional plaintiffs who has suffered the same and/or similar abuses of misconduct and oppression prohibited by the 14<sup>th</sup> amendment of the United State Constitution.

### Parties to this action:

5. <u>I</u>	<u>Plainti</u>	iff name and	address: .	James	W. Jones
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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Niagara Falls, New York 14304

6. **Defendant name:** City of Niagara Falls New York

**Sued in:** Official Capacity

**Official position:** City of Niagara Falls

Address: City Hall 745 main street, Niagara Falls NY 14301

7. **Defendant name:** County of Niagara

**Official position:** County of Niagara

**Sued in:** Official and individual capacities

Hiring, training, investigating, slandering

Address: 175 Hawley Street, Lockport, New York 14

## 8. Defendant name: Vicent Daniels

Official position: Niagara Falls police officer #BGN-

Sued in: Individual and official capacity

Address: 1925 main street, Niagara Falls, New York 14301

9. **Defendant name:** James T. Reynolds

Official position: Police officer

**Sued in:** individual and official capacity

Address: 1925 main street, Niagara Falls, New York 14301

10. **Defendant name:** Karl P. Brunson

Official position: police officer

Sued in: Individual and official capacity

11. Defendant name: Richard Fleck

**Official position:** Police officer

**Sued in:** individual and official capacity

Address: 1925 main street, Niagara Falls, New York 14301

12. Defendant name: Kevin Maluchnik

Official position: police officer

Sued in: individual and official capacity

Address: 1925 main street, Niagara Falls, New York 14031

13. **Defendant name:** Christopher Clark

Official position: police officer

**Sued in:** individual and official capacity

Address: 1925 main street, Niagara Falls, New York 14301

14. Defendant name: Robert Restaino

**Official position:** Mayor of City of niagara falls

Sued in: individual and official capacity

Address: 1925 Main Street, Niagara Falls, New York 14301

15. **Defendant name:** Nicholas Ligammari

Official position: police officer

**Sued in:** individual and official capacity

Address: 1925 main street, Niagara Falls, New York 14301

16. **Defendant name:** Dominic Graves

**Official position:** Forensic scientist

**Sued in:** individual and official capacity

Address: 5526 Niagara St. Ext. Lockport, NY 14094

17. **Defendant name:** Kirrin Cook

**Official position:** Forensic lab clerical 1

Sued in: individual and official capacity

Address: 5526 Niagara St. Ext. Lockport, NY 14094

18. **Defendant name:** Brian Seaman

Official position: District attorney/county policy designator

Sued in: individual and official capacity

Address: 175 Hawley Street, Lockport Ny 14094

#### Statement of facts:

19. On or about January 26, 2024, based upon a false search warrant issued for **Ronnie L. Dixon (dob 7/25/1977)**, sworn to by the defendant Detective Kevin Maluchnik and Richard Fleck of the Niagara Falls New York police department:

Defendants Maluchnik and Fleck state under oath that being police officers with the Niagara Falls police department assigned to the narcotic intelligent division where they were investigating crimes alleged in violation of New York state penal laws, That a Ronnie L. Dixon (DOB 7/25/1977), a Black male, 6' '0"., 165 lbs. with brown eyes and black hair, as well as said premises, 5930 Buffalo Ave. Apartment 15 (Shivas Travelers Lodge), as a result of this information sworn by these defendants themselves, and several other uniformed public officials did join to assault the plaintiff by using force and planting evidence found in a residence not belonging to the plaintiff Mr. Jones.

20. Defendants based on information obtained from informant during their investigation into illegal drugs use, possession and sale of controlled substances, in the City of Niagara Falls, Ny, (in exchange for the informant's information defendants provided purchase money so as to allow the informant to purchase and use the drug). More specifically at the address of 5930 Buffalo Ave,

Apartment 15. This investigation was conducted by an informant alleged to be known by the defendants as reliable and credible and who has passed on information and cooperation which according to the defendants resulted in them achieving numerous arrests and convictions of violations as defined in Article 220 of the revised penal law of the state of new York and who will also appear before this court to provide sworn testimony regarding this investigation.

21. As the result of the City of Niagara Falls training, Niagara County policies created for investigating crimes and complaints filed the defendants Sitek, Fleck, Vincent Daniels, Reynolds, Ligammari, Brunson, and Maluchnik has used force, planted narcotics and filed false criminal charges against the Plaintiff.

<u>First cause of action:</u> Unlawful arrest and lack of probable cause and the 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 14 th amendments of the United States constitution

- 22. Defendants Sitek, Maluchnik, Reynolds, and Brunso acting as intelligent investigators for the NFPD narcotic unit, did use their position knowingly, deliberately and unlawfully to bring false criminal charges against the plaintiff and caused him to be arrested on charges of possession of narcotics the officers knew did not belong to the plaintiff.
- 23. Defendant Sitek, Maluchnik, Reynolds, and Brunson did obtain information from an informant regarding a specific citizen named ("Toot"), date of birth known to the defendants as Ronnie L. Dixon.

Yet, the defendants rushed into Mr. Jones space knowing he was not Ronnie L. Dixon, used force, and arrested him.

24. As a result of the defendants' actions, Mr. Jones suffered an "illegal arrest without probable cause", "Unnecessary force used upon him", illegal imprisonment and intelligent investigators narcotic defendants deliberately charged Mr. Jones falsely with narcotics which they knew did not belong to him.

### Second Cause of action: Use of force 8th amendment violation

- 25. Defendants Maluchnik, Reynolds, Sitek, Fleck, used force upon Mr. Jones knowing that he was not Ronnie L. Dixon when they forced their way into the resident.
- 26. Defendants Maluchnik, Fleck and Sitek punched, kicked and tackled the plaintiff down to the ground, placing handcuffs as tight as they possibly could go upon plaintiff's wrist, causing pain and numbness to date in his wrists and arms.
- 27. As a result of the force used slamming plaintiff down to the ground, placing handcuffs as tight as they could possibly go on Mr. Jones wrist, and punching him, the plaintiff sustained multiple injuries such as neck, back, shoulders, wrist, migraine headaches which the defendants refused to treat.

<u>Third cause of action:</u> Filing false criminal charges to arrest, denying plaintiff his right to a fair trial

28. Defendants Maluchnik, Sitek, Reynolds, County of Niagara, city of Niagara Falls, Dominic Graves, Robert Restaino, Fleck, Kirrin

Cook, Karl P. Brunson, Chritopher Clark acting in conjunction with each other did knowingly, willingly, and unlawfully file false criminal charges against Mr. Jones who is not Ronnie L. Dixon the suspect whom they were investigating.

- 29. All these defendants knowingly and willingly falsified documents placed in official records, indicating that Ronnie L. Dixon is Mr. Jones. And, that whatever was alleged against this Dixon person was committed by the plaintiff Mr. Jones.
- 30. Dominic Graves and Kirrin Cook exercised indifference where they fabricated chemical reports under Mr. Jones named indicating that test was conducted upon some narcotics which these defendants ascribe to being in Mr. Jones possession which is false statement. In addition, the chemical lab reports are not verified, certified and the test results were returned from a tainted test performed by these defendants which caused a false positive result to be attached to the plaintiff.
- 30. As a result of the defendants' actions, the plaintiff suffered false positive drugs tests attached to him, and to be placed in official governmental records as being in possession of narcotic found on a location that did not belong to Ronnie L. Dixon. And, because of these allegation Mr. Jones could not obtain a fair trial and/or any of the constitutional remedies available to him as a citizen, and the defendants knew by filing these false instruments against Mr. Jones he would be subjected to a bias judge, be prevented from confronting any witnesses against him other than the defendants who are the agents who drafted the charges, and Mr. Jones was

subjected to excessive and coercive interrogation tactic...with the Misdemeanor charges dismissed.

### Relief Sought

- 31. The plaintiff James Jones, seeks the following relief to remedy the constitutional violations:
- 32. Compensatory damages against all the defendants together and separately in the amount of \$ 2,500.000.00
- 33. Punitive Damages against all the defendants together and separately in the amount of \$ 3,500.000.00
- 34. That a cause of action for probable cause be determined herein, where all the narcotic division defendants, and those who trained and supervised there actions and signing off on official reports placed in records against Mr. Jones all city, county and ranking official named above for sabotaging complaints and fabricating tainted DNA test rewults not up to government standards or codes.



35. And, any other relief as the court may deem just and adequate under these causes of this case.

Dated: November 14, 2024

James W. Jones

JS 44 (Rev. 10/20)

# Case 1:24-cv-01128-LJV Document 1 Filed 11/21/24 Page 11 of 11

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the

purpose of initiating the civil of	locket sheet. (SEE INSTRU	CTIONS ON NEXT PAGE O	F THIS FORM.)			7 to 1	
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS			DEFEND	ANTS Ci	HOFNI	iggora Falls El	
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Lames (W. (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)				County of Residence of First Listed Defendant 15 County Of Residence Of First Defendant 15 County Of Policy Of P			
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name,	Address, and Telephone Numb	er) 63 Strect 9 avatalls,	Attorneys (1)	f Known)	24 CV	1 1128	
II. BASIS OF JURISD	ICTION (Place an "X" in	One Box Only)	III. CITIZENSHIP	OF PRINCIP		(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff	
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2 U.S. Government Defendant	4 Diversity (Indicate Citizens)	nip of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State		2 Incorporated and a of Business In A	Another State	
765 (2)			Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3 🗍	3 Foreign Nation		
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110 Insurance 120 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment 151 Medicare Act 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise  REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property	PERSONAL INJURY  310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability 320 Assault, Libel & Slander 330 Federal Employers' Liability 340 Marine 345 Marine Product Liability 350 Motor Vehicle 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability 360 Other Personal Injury 362 Personal Injury Medical Malpractice FIVIL RIGHTS 441 Voting 442 Employment 443 Housing/ Accommodations 445 Amer. w/Disabilities Employment 446 Amer. w/Disabilities Other 448 Education	PERSONAL INJURY  365 Personal Injury - Product Liability  367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability  368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability  PERSONAL PROPERT  370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending  380 Other Personal Property Damage 385 Property Damage Product Liability  PERSONER PETITION: Habeas Corpus:  463 Alien Detainee 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence 530 General 535 Death Penalty Other: 540 Mandamus & Other 550 Civil Rights 555 Prison Condition 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement	7   625 Drug Related Se of Property 21 U   690 Other   690 Other   710 Fair Labor Stand Act   720 Labor/Managem Relations   740 Railway Labor A   751 Family and Med Leave Act   790 Other Labor Liti   791 Employee Retire Income Security   1462 Naturalization A	A22 A   A23 V   A23 V   A24	ppeal 28 USC 158 Vithdrawal 8 USC 157 ERTYRIGHTS	375 False Claims Act 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a)) 400 State Reapportionment 410 Antitrust 430 Banks and Banking 450 Commerce 460 Deportation 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations 480 Consumer Credit (15 USC 1681 or 1692) 485 Telephone Consumer Protection Act 490 Cable/Sat TV 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange 890 Other Statutory Actions 891 Agricultural Acts 893 Environmental Matters	
	noved from 3 te Court	Remanded from Appellate Court	Reopened	Transferred from Another District (specify)	6 Multidistri Litigation Transfer		
7. CAUSE OF ACTIO							
II. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS UNDER RULE 2	IS A CLASS ACTION 3, F.R.Cv.P.	DEMAND \$		CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND:	if demanded in complaint:	
TII. RELATED CASE IF ANY	E(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE .	A	DOC	KET NUMBER		
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